Sale of medical and engineering seats in unaided private colleges

632. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI N.R. DASARI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent news reports about the sale of medical and engineering seats in unaided private colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction to such uncontrolled trade in professional education field;

(c) whether it is a fact that the private colleges have resorted to this practice misinterpreting a Supreme Court judgement of December, 2002 freeing unaided private colleges from Government fee control; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA):(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) As per the judgement of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 31st October, 2002 in the T.M.A. Pai Foundation & Others Versus State of Karnataka and Others Case, in professional un-aided institutions, a rational fee structure should be adopted by the Management, which would not be entitled to charge a capitation fee. Appropriate machinery can be devised by the State or University to ensure that no capitation fee is charged and that there is no profitering, though institutions may be permitted to accumulate a reasonable surplus for furtherance of education. Accordingly, an Interim Policy Regulation was notified by AICTE on 20th March, 2003, according to which, State Governments are to decide a fee structrue for the Institutions in the respective State for the academic year 2003-04. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have also issued similar guidelines in respect of private medical colleges on 14th May, 2003. The matter is at present Sub-judice.